

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7259

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 1181

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JM

SUBJECT: SCHEDULED MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER MANLEY

1. I AM SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH PRIME MINISTER MANLEY ON APRIL 9 AT HIS REQUEST. HE MAY HAVE NO SPECIAL PURPOSE IN MIND OTHER THAN CONTINUING OUR DIALOGUE IN WHICH THERE HAS BEEN SOMETHING OF A HIATUS OWING TO HIS PREOCCUPATION WITH OTHER MATTERS. HOWEVER, IT IS EASY TO PREDICT SOME OF THE SUBJECTS LIKELY TO COME UP IN THE DISCUSSION. IN PARTICULAR, MANLEY WILL PROBABLY SEEK SOME KIND OF FEEL FOR USG VIEWS ON WHAT HE REFERS TO AS THE "NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER" IN GENERAL, AND ESPECIALLY OUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS HIS IDEA OF "INDEXING" - THAT IS, ESTABLISHING A MECHANICAL LINKAGE BETWEEN THE PRICES THAT RAW MATERIAL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES MUST PAY FOR THEIR IMPORTS AND THE PRICES THEY ARE ABLE TO GET FOR THEIR EXPORTS. OBTAINING SUPPORT FOR THE NEW ECONOMIC ORDER, INCLUDING INDEXING, IS LIKELY TO BE ONE OF JAMAICA'S CHIEF GOALS DURING THE COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE WHICH BEGINS IN KINGSTON IN LATE APRIL. AS I UNDERSTAND IT, WE HAVE BEEN LESS THAN ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT INDEXING AND SIMILAR PROPOSALS, BUT I WOULD APPRECIATE AN UPDATE ON USG VIEWS PRIOR TO SEEING MANLEY ON APRIL 9.

2. ANOTHER SUBJECT WHICH MAY COME UP IS MANLEY'S PREVIOUSLY
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EXPRESSED DESIRE FOR A VISIT TO WASHINGTON, INCLUDING A CALL

ON THE PRESIDENT. WE KNOWN MANLEY HAS RESENTED OUR FAILURE TO RESPOND FAVORABLY TO HIS FEELERS ABOUT A VISIT (A MINISTER TOLD ME MANLEY CONSIDERED THE BAUXITE TALKS LINKAGE AS BLACKMAIL), AND THAT HE WAS STUNG WHEN THE PRESIDENT ALMOST CASUALLY (MANLEY'S VIEW) RECEIVED THRINIDAD'S ERIC WILLIAMS AS HE PASSED THROUGH WASHINGTON. IT MAY BE THAT HIS DESIRE HAS COOLED, BUT I WOULD LIKE TO BE IN A POSITION TO REASSURE THE PM ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A VISIT, PERHAPS AS EARLY AS THIS SUMMER IF THE ATMOSPHERE IS RIGHT. DEPT-MENT'S ADVISE REQUESTED.

GERARD

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